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TERRITORY OF MISSOURI.

GENERAL ORDERS.

St. Louis, March 1st, 1813.

The uſual orders for the muſters of the battalions in the ſpring, will not now be given. The threatened invaſion of our ſettlements by the northern indians, requires arrangements of another character. To repel and if poſſible to chaſtiſe theſe inroads, if they ſhould be attempted, the acting Commander in Chief orders,

That the volunteer companies commanded by captain's Dodge, M'Nair, Callaway, Aſhley, Young, Hughes, Millard, Ramſay, and Rankin, muſter for inſpection at their reſpective parade grounds, on Saturday the 20th of the preſent month, and hold themſelves thenceforth, in readineſs to be called into actual ſervice at a moments warning.

That the ſeveral militia companies throughout the territory, do alſo muſter for inſpection at their uſual places of parade, on the ſame day, to wit: 20th of the preſent month, and thereafter hold themſelves in conſtant preparation for the defence of the country; but as it is probable that all their ſervices will not be required at the ſame time, each captain will after exerciſe and inſpection, diſtribute his company into three claſſes, to be denominated 1ſt, 2d and 3d claſs. The firſt claſs, will when the occaſion ſhall require it, have the honor of being firſt called into the field, and will be relieved by the others ſucceſſively as their tours of duty expire. If the young and the enterpriſing will voluntarily offer themſelves for the firſt claſs, it will be the better arrangement. But on their neglect to do ſo, the claſſification muſt be made by draft.

The captains of volunteer companies, and the officers commanding militia companies, will make returns with all convenient diſpatch to the acting commander in chief, and will at the ſame time, report to their immediate ſuperior officers.

That no citizen ſoldier may be ignorant of the manner in which the law requires him to be equipped, he is reminded, that it is his duty to provide himſelf with a good muſket, with bayonet and belt, or a fuſil, two ſpare flints, a knapſack and pouch with a box therein, to contain not leſs than twenty four cartridges, or a good rifle, knapſack, powder horn and pouch, with twenty balls, and a quarter of a pound of powder. If this is an equipment preſcribed by the laws of our country in times of tranquility and peace, ſurely in the moment of difficulty and danger no militia man will delay to make the preparation. The great body of the militia will do their duty: It is known that they will, they have given proofs of it—the work is their own—the defence of their own fields and fire ſides. They have the character too, of Americans to ſupport, and the bleſſings of a mild ſyſtem of government to preſerve.

Let us all act with patriotic diligence and determination in our ſeveral ſtations, and truſt the ſucceſs of our efforts, to that Being in whoſe hands are the deſtinies of mankind.

By order of the acting
Commander in chief
Nath. O. Cary
Aid de Camp

Benj. Berkett Adjt

Major James Mason

Comd'g 2nd Battn 3rd Regt

St. Charles County